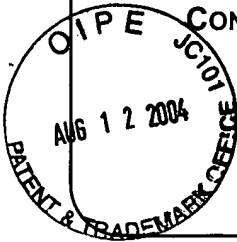


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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL
Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/888,689
Filing Date	June 25, 2001
First Named Inventor	Phillip E. Byrd
Art Unit	3729
Examiner Name	R. Chang
Attorney Docket Number	2269-4715US (00-1057.00/US)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114**

a. Previously submitted

i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply

ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1469

i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)

ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$770.00 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print /Type)	James R. Duzan	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,393
Signature	<i>James R. Duzan</i>	Date	August 12, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Express Mail Label Number: EL994831300US
Date of Deposit: August 12, 2004
Person Making Deposit: Christopher Haughton

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Phillip E. Byrd

Serial No.: 09/888,689

Filed: June 25, 2001

For: METHOD TO PREVENT DAMAGE
TO PROBE CARD

Confirmation No.: 1027

Examiner: R. Chang

Group Art Unit: 3729

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-4715US
(00-1057.00/US)

NOTICE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail Mailing Label Number: EL994831300US

Date of Deposit with USPS: August 12, 2004

Person making Deposit: Christopher Haughton

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is submitted simultaneously with a REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION. Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application on the merits, entry of the amendments as set forth herein is respectfully solicited.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.